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# Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

SNM-02 TRSE-00 NSC-05 OES-06 OMB-01 PRS-01 SS-15

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /061 W
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O 270025Z AUG 76 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7032
DEA HQS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: SNAR MX
SUBJECT: VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF ALEJANDRO GERTZ, OFFICE OF
MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL

1. ALEJANDRO GERTZ, ATTORNEY GENERAL'S COORDINATOR OF NARCOTICS CONTROL PROGRAMS, INFORMED MISSION TODAY THAT HE WILL VISIT NEW YORK FOR PERSONAL REASONS ON MONDAY, AUGUST 30, AND WOULD LIKE TO STOP IN WASHINGTON ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, FOR BRIEF DISCUSSIONS WITH SHELDON VANCE (S/NM) AND PETER BENSINGER (DEA). HE WOULD ARRIVE WASHINGTON LATE TUESDAY MORNING.

2. GERTZ WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS PROCEDURES FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION OF MEXICAN ADMINISTRATIONS IN NARCOTICS CONTROL AREA. HE NOTED THAT WHEN HE WAS APPOINTED TO HIS PRESENT POSITION, HE EXPERIENCED EXTREME DIFFICULTY, ANALOGOUS TO THAT EXPERIENCED BY PRESENT DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR, SORTING OUT THE CONFUSING AND CONFLICTING INFO HE WAS GIVEN ON THE NARCOTICS SITUATION. HE SAID THAT ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA HAD SPECIFICALLY CHARGED HIM TO SEE THAT HIS SUCCESSOR DID NOT EXPERIENCE THE SAME DIFFICULTY. (FYI: GERTZ DID NOT RPT NOT INDICATE WHO WOULD SUCCEED HIM AND WHEN THIS CHANGE WOULD OCCUR.)
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3. A SECOND TOPIC VERY MUCH ON GERTZ' MIND IS RECENT INTELLIGENCE HE HAS RECEIVED THAT MEXICAN POPPY GROWERS INTEND TO BEGIN CULTIVATION IN MANY NEW LOCATIONS WHERE POPPIES ARE NOT A TRADITIONAL CROP. DEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR COMMENTED TO GERTZ THAT JUST YESTERDAY A COOPERATING INDIVIDUAL REPORTED HAVING SEEN CRUDE OPIUM ALLEGEDLY GROWN IN THE MOUNTAINS NEAR VERZCRUZ. IF CORRECT, THIS REPORT WOULD CONFIRM GERTZ' OWN INFORMATION. (FYI: WE WILL PURSUE THIS REPORT AND ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP ADDITIONAL INFO.)

3. IN CONVERSATIONS WITH GERTZ, SUGGEST VANCE AND BENSINGER COMMENT FAVORABLY ON ARREST OF JORGE FAVELA-ESCOBOSA (MEXICO 10471) AND SILVINO GUZMAN-VILLANUEVA (AUGUST 25 ARREST BEING REPORTED SEPTEL), EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR WIDE LATITUDE BEING GIVEN TO SPECTRAL DATA CORPORATION (SDC) (MEXICO 10555) AND, IF SUFFICIENT INFO AVAILABLE, DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF MIXING RHODAMINE B DYE WITH HERBIVIDE (MEXICO 10590). (FYI: IN CONVERSATIONGS WITH DEPT OF AGRICULTURE TECHNICIAN GENTNER ON AUGUST 25, GERTZ HIMSELF ASKED ABOUT FEASIBILITY OF USING SOME SORT OF DYE.) ASSUMING SDC CONTRACT IS ON TRACK, IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WASHINGTON REPS COULD SUGGEST TO GERTZ ADVISABILITY OF HAMING SDC TEAM UNDERTAKE SEVERAL PHOTO MISSIONS OVER AREAS WHERE POPPIES ARE NOT TRADITIONALLY GROWN (SUCH AS VERACRUZ AREA TO TEST OUT GERTZ' BELIEF THAT TRAFFICKERS ARE ENCOURAGING GROWTH IN NEW AREAS.

4. WILL TELEPHONE GERTZ' CONFIRMED ETA WASHINGTON WHEN AVAILABLE. IF POSSIBLE, REQUEST DEA MEET AND ASSIST AT WASHINGTON.
JOVA

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**Subject:** VISIT TO WASHINGTON OF ALEJANDRO GERTZ, OFFICE OF MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL
**TAGS:** SNAR, MX, (GERTZ, ALEJANDRO)
**To:** STATE DEA
**Type:** TE
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006